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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- Two distinct factions have reportedly been formed within Catholic Action, compromising its effectiveness in the political and trade union fields. One of these factions, headed by Professor Luigi Gedda, president of the Catholic Action men's group, and Professor Carlo Carretto, vice-president of Centro Sportivo Italiano, a Catholic Youth organization, has the backing of Cardinal Giuseppe Pizzardo. It includes almost all the Catholic Action membership of Central and Southern Italy. The so-called Civic Committees (Comitati Civici), of which Gedda is the head, also support this faction. The other group is headed by Professor Vittorino Veronese, president-general of Catholic Action, with Monsignor Roberto Ronca as its spokesman in the Vatican. It has the support of Monsignors Giovanni Battista Montini and Giovanni Urbani, who, although they do not agree fully on details, are both opposed to the Civic Committees and to the group headed by Gedda and Carretto.
- Disagreement between the Gedda-Carretto and Veronese factions of Catholic Action is reflected in their different conceptions of the proper functions of the Civic Committees, which are allied with the former group, and of the Civilta Italica association, which is maintained by the latter group and supported by the Confindustria. Monsignor Ronca, head of Civilta Italica, is of the opinion that the Civic Committees should perform only welfare functions, rather than the task assigned to them, namely that of helping the Free Italian General Confederation of Labor (LCGIL) (Libera Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro) break the control over labor held by the Communist-dominated Italian General Confederation of Labor (CGIL) (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro). In order to decrease the influence of Civilta Italica in Vatican circles, Gedda and Carretto allegedly urged the Pope to have Ronca nominated to the rank of bishop and assigned to the diocese of Pompei, the smallest and least important one in Italy. Ronca, however, subsequent to this appointment, has succeeded, with the aid of his supporters, in postponing his departure on various pretexts. He is also known as the "behind-thescenes" director of ARI (Agenzia Romana Informazioni), an unofficial information agency for various Catholic organizations.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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The Catholic Youth organization (GIAC) (Gioventu Italiana d'Azione Cattolica), headed by Carretto, is also divided into two factions. The dissident group includes all the members in Piedmont, and those in parts of Lombardy, Latium and Sicily; the memberwhip in the remaining parts of Italy adheres to the established organization under Carretto's leadership. The dissidents do not have any recognized leader, but are expected to join the Catholic Action faction under Veronese.